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ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mrs. Rosa Carmina Recinos de MALDONADO (Guatemala)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 24 September 1993, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "Advancement of women" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item at its 29th to 37th, 41st and 48th meetings, on 10 to 12, 15 to 18 and 23 November and 1 December 1993. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/47/SR.29-37, 41 and 48).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (A/48/38); 1/

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (A/48/187-E/1993/76);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/48/354);

1/ To be issued in final form as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 38.

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women (A/48/413);

(e) Progress report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (A/48/513);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/48/591);

(g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/48/279);

(h) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/48/301);

(i) Note by the Secretariat on the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/C.3/48/10);

(j) Letter dated 8 March 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/98);

(k) Letter dated 31 March 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/124-S/25506);

(l) Letter dated 28 May 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/182);

(m) Letter dated 9 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/338);

(n) Letter dated 30 August 1993 from the Permanent Representative of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/359);

(o) Letter dated 28 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/48/564);

(p) Letter dated 11 October 1993 from the Minister for Foreign Relations of the Dominican Republic addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/48/6);

(q) Letter dated 18 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/48/15).

4. At the 29th meeting, on 10 November, introductory statements were made by the Secretary-General of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the Focal Point for Women in the Office of the Assistant Secretary-General of

the Office for Human Resources Management and the Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (see A/C.3/48/SR.29). At the 36th meeting, on 17 November, an introductory statement was made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, Chairman of the Task Force on the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (see A/C.3/48/SR.36). At the 37th meeting, on 18 November, the Secretary-General of the Fourth World Conference on Women made concluding remarks (see A/C.3/48/SR.37).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.5

5. At its 48th meeting, on 1 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/48/L.5, entitled "Declaration on the elimination of violence against women", which had been recommended by the Economic and Social Council for adoption by the General Assembly.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/48/L.5 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.30

7. At the 41st meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Argentina, on behalf of Afghanistan, Argentina, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, New Zealand, Peru, Senegal, Spain, Turkey, Uruguay and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women" (A/C.3/48/L.30), and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 2, the word "thereby" was replaced with the word "thus", and the word "their" was deleted;

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the word "women" after the word "mainstreaming" was replaced with the word "gender";

(c) In operative paragraph 4, the words "in statistics pertaining to women" were replaced with the words "in gender statistics";

(d) In operative paragraph 6, the words "ensuring that its work is more widely disseminated and has greater impact" were replaced with the words "attaining a greater outreach and impact of its work".

8. At its 48th meeting, on 1 December, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.30, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.31

9. At the 41st meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Canada, on behalf of Albania, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Senegal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Yemen and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat" (A/C.3/48/L.31). Subsequently, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Israel, Nigeria, Romania, Singapore and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

10. At its 48th meeting, on 1 December, the Committee adopted draft resolution (A/C.3/48/L.31 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.32

11. At the 41st meeting, on 23 November, the representative of the Bahamas, on behalf of the Bahamas, China, Denmark, Indonesia, Poland, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations Development Fund for Women" (A/C.3/48/L.32). Subsequently, Afghanistan, Cameroon, Canada and the Philippines joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

12. At its 48th meeting, on 1 December, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.32 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.33

13. At the 41st meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Colombia, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women" (A/C.3/48/L.33), and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 23, the words "to support the convening" were replaced with the words "to lend support to the convening";

(b) In operative paragraph 24, the words ",from within existing resources," were inserted after the words "the Secretary-General";

(c) In operative paragraph 26, the words "important role and to appeal" with replaced with the words "active role in appealing";

(d) In operative paragraph 30, the words ",taking into account resolution 37/7 of 25 March 1993 of the Commission on the Status of Women" were inserted after the word "Decides";

(e) In the annex, paragraph (f), the words "be eligible to apply for accreditation to" were replaced with the words "attend all future sessions and".

14. At its 48th meeting, on 1 December, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.33, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution V).

F. Draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.34

15. At the 41st meeting, on 23 November, the representative of Mongolia, on behalf of Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, the Philippines, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Uganda, Vanuatu and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas" (A/C.3/48/L.34), and orally revised it by replacing, in the fifth preambular paragraph, the words "Noting with deep concern" with the word "Recognizing", and inserting the words "noting with deep concern" after the words "especially in rural areas, and".

16. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Belarus, Cyprus, Ecuador, Eritrea, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Malaysia and Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, as orally revised.

17. At its 48th meeting, on 1 December, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.34, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution VI).

G. Draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.35

18. At the 41st meeting, on 23 November, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf of Australia, Belarus, Belgium, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Ireland, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Spain, Thailand and Uganda, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Violence against women migrant workers" (A/C.3/48/L.35), and orally revised it by inserting, in operative paragraph 4, the word "should" after the words "human rights of women". Subsequently, Ecuador and Ghana joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, as orally revised.

19. At its 48th meeting, on 1 December, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution VII).

H. Draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.41 and Rev.1

20. On 24 November, the representative of the Dominican Republic, on behalf of Angola, Bolivia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Kenya, Malawi, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, the Sudan and Togo, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Merger of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women" (A/C.3/48/L.41), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 31/135 of 16 December 1976, in which it endorsed the establishment of an International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1998 (LX) of 12 May 1976 concerning the guidelines regarding the activities of the Institute,

"Considering its resolution 43/101 of 8 December 1988, in which it reaffirmed the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in matters related to the advancement of women and called upon the Commission to promote the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 2/ up to the year 2000 based on the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the sub-theme 'Employment, health and education',

"Recognizing the importance of adequate preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1995 under the guidance of the Conference secretariat and the role therein of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

"Noting Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/17 of 27 July 1993, in which the Council requested the Institute to assist in the substantive preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women, given its essential role in research, training and statistical expertise,

"Noting also that the Institute is the only autonomous United Nations institution with headquarters in the Latin American and Caribbean region,

"Emphasizing that the ultimate goal of restructuring should be to strengthen the programmes for the advancement of women and to enhance the efficiency of the work of these organizations, in function, structure and cost-effectiveness,

"Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 1993/235 of 27 July 1993, in which the Council agreed to the recommendation of the

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2/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Secretary-General to merge the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, subject to a proper analysis of the legal, financial and administrative implications of the merger, and subject to consideration by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1993/235, 3/

"1. Affirms that the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women should retain its separate identity and autonomy to pursue independent research and related training activities important for the advancement of women;

"2. Urges that the interaction between the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women be reviewed and rationalized within the context of ongoing efforts to revitalize the Economic and Social Council in pursuance of a stronger, more unified programme for the advancement of women;

"3. Requests that there be included in the agenda of the thirty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women an additional item entitled 'Rationalization and strengthening of the structures for the advancement of women in the United Nations system' and that a report on the recommendations of the Commission on the Status of Women on this item be submitted to the Economic and Social Council and to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report from the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed merger of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women with regard to financial, staffing and budgetary implications in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

"5. Requests that no further action be taken on the proposed merger of the Institute and the Fund until the matter of the larger structure has been reviewed by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session."

3/ A/48/591.

21. At the 48th meeting, on 1 December, the representative of the Dominican Republic, on behalf of the sponsors, now joined by Argentina, Cuba, Cyprus, Morocco and Namibia, introduced revised draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.41/Rev.1).

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted revised draft resolution A/C.3/48/L.41/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 23, draft resolution VIII).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

23. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Declaration on the elimination of violence against women

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the urgent need for the universal application to women of the rights and principles with regard to equality, security, liberty, integrity and dignity of all human persons,

Noting that those rights and principles are enshrined in international instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 4/ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 5/ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 5/ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 6/ and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 7/

Recognizing that the effective implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women would contribute to the elimination of violence against women and that the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, set forth in the present resolution, will strengthen and complement that process,

Concerned that violence against women is an obstacle to the achievement of equality, development and peace, as recognized in the Nairobi Forward-looking

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4/ Resolution 217 A (III).

5/ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

6/ Resolution 34/180, annex.

7/ Resolution 39/46, annex.

Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 8/ which recommend a set of measures to combat violence against women, and to the full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Affirming that violence against women both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and concerned about the long-standing failure to protect and promote those rights and freedoms in relation to violence against women,

Recognizing that violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of their full advancement, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men,

Concerned that some groups of women, such as women belonging to minority groups, indigenous women, refugee women, migrant women, women living in rural or remote communities, destitute women, women in institutions or in detention, female children, women with disabilities, elderly women and women in situations of armed conflict, are especially vulnerable to violence,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/15 of 24 May 1990, in the annex to which it was recognized that violence against women in the family and society was pervasive and cut across lines of income, class and culture, and had to be matched by urgent and effective steps to eliminate its incidence,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/18 of 30 May 1991, in which the Council recommended the development of a framework for an international instrument that would address explicitly the issue of violence against women,

Welcoming the role that women's movements have played in drawing increasing attention to the nature, severity and magnitude of the problem of violence against women,

Alarmed that women's opportunities to achieve legal, social, political and economic equality in society are limited, inter alia, by continuing and endemic violence,

Convinced that in the light of the above there is a need for a clear and comprehensive definition of violence against women, a clear statement of the rights to be applied to ensure the elimination of violence against women in all its forms, a commitment by States in respect of their responsibilities, and a commitment by the international community at large towards the elimination of violence against women,

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8/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Solemnly proclaims the following Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and urges that every effort be made so that it becomes generally known and respected:

Article 1

For the purposes of this Declaration, the term "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

Article 2

Violence against women shall be understood to encompass, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation;

(b) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution;

(c) Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the State, wherever it occurs.

Article 3

Women are entitled to the equal enjoyment and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field. These rights include, inter alia:

(a) The right to life; 9/

(b) The right to equality; 10/

9/ Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 3; and International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 6.

10/ International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 26.

(c) The right to liberty and security of person; 11/

(d) The right to equal protection under the law; 10/

(e) The right to be free from all forms of discrimination; 10/

(f) The right to the highest standard attainable of physical and mental health; 12/

(g) The right to just and favourable conditions of work; 13/

(h) The right not to be subjected to torture, or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. 14/

Article 4

States should condemn violence against women and should not invoke any custom, tradition or religious consideration to avoid their obligations with respect to its elimination. States should pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating violence against women and, to this end, should:

(a) Consider, where they have not yet done so, ratifying or acceding to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women or withdrawing reservations to that Convention;

(b) Refrain from engaging in violence against women;

(c) Exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and, in accordance with national legislation, punish acts of violence against women, whether those acts are perpetrated by the State or by private persons;

(d) Develop penal, civil, labour and administrative sanctions in domestic legislation to punish and redress the wrongs caused to women who are subjected to violence; women who are subjected to violence should be provided with access to the mechanisms of justice and, as provided for by national legislation, to just and effective remedies for the harm that they

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11/ Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 3; and International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 9.

12/ International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, article 12.

13/ Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 23; and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, articles 6 and 7.

14/ Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 5; International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 7; and Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

have suffered; States should also inform women of their rights in seeking redress through such mechanisms;

(e) Consider the possibility of developing national plans of action to promote the protection of women against any form of violence, or to include provisions for this purpose in plans already existing, taking into account, as appropriate, such cooperation as can be provided by non-governmental organizations, particularly those concerned with this subject;

(f) Develop, in a comprehensive way, preventive approaches and all those measures of a legal, political, administrative and cultural nature that promote the protection of women against any form of violence, and ensure that the re-victimization of women does not occur because of gender-insensitive laws, enforcement practices or other interventions;

(g) Work to ensure, to the maximum extent feasible in the light of their available resources and, where needed, within the framework of international cooperation, that women subjected to violence and, where appropriate, their children have specialized assistance, such as rehabilitation, assistance in child care and maintenance, treatment, counselling, health and social services, facilities and programmes, as well as support structures, and should take all other appropriate measures to promote their safety and physical and psychological rehabilitation;

(h) Include in government budgets adequate resources for their activities related to the elimination of violence against women;

(i) Take measures to ensure that law enforcement officers and public officials responsible for implementing policies to prevent, investigate and punish violence against women receive training to sensitize them to the needs of women;

(j) Adopt all appropriate measures, especially in the field of education, to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women and to eliminate prejudices, customary practices and all other practices based on the idea of the inferiority or superiority of either of the sexes and on stereotyped roles for men and women;

(k) Promote research, collect data and compile statistics, especially concerning domestic violence, relating to the prevalence of different forms of violence against women and encourage research on the causes, nature, seriousness and consequences of violence against women and on the effectiveness of measures implemented to prevent and redress violence against women; those statistics and findings of the research will be made public;

(l) Adopt measures directed to the elimination of violence against women who are especially vulnerable to violence;

(m) Include, in submitting reports as required under relevant human rights instruments of the United Nations, information pertaining to

violence against women and measures taken to implement the present Declaration;

(n) Encourage the development of appropriate guidelines to assist in the implementation of the principles set forth in the present Declaration;

(o) Recognize the important role of the women's movement and non-governmental organizations world wide in raising awareness and alleviating the problem of violence against women;

(p) Facilitate and enhance the work of the women's movement and non-governmental organizations and cooperate with them at local, national and regional levels;

(q) Encourage intergovernmental regional organizations of which they are members to include the elimination of violence against women in their programmes, as appropriate.

Article 5

The organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system should, within their respective fields of competence, contribute to the recognition and realization of the rights and the principles set forth in the present Declaration, and to this end should, inter alia:

(a) Foster international and regional cooperation with a view to defining regional strategies for combating violence, exchanging experiences and financing programmes relating to the elimination of violence against women;

(b) Promote meetings and seminars with the aim of creating and raising awareness among all persons the issue of the elimination of violence against women;

(c) Foster coordination and exchange within the United Nations system between human rights treaty bodies to address the matter effectively;

(d) Include in analyses prepared by organizations and bodies of the United Nations system of social trends and problems, such as the periodic reports on the world social situation, examination of trends in violence against women;

(e) Encourage coordination between organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to incorporate the issue of violence against women into ongoing programmes, especially with reference to groups of women particularly vulnerable to violence;

(f) Promote the formulation of guidelines or manuals relating to violence against women, taking into account the measures mentioned herein;

(g) Consider the issue of the elimination of violence against women, as appropriate, in fulfilling their mandates with respect to the implementation of human rights instruments;

(h) Cooperate with non-governmental organizations in addressing violence against women.

Article 6

Nothing in the present Declaration shall affect any provision that is more conducive to the elimination of violence against women that may be contained in the legislation of a State or in any international convention, treaty or other instrument in force in a State.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/99 of 16 December 1991 and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/17 of 27 June 1993,

Taking note of the report of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its activities, 15/

Stressing the need for independent research to ensure that policy-making and project implementation address issues and emerging areas of concern to women, and the role of the Institute therein,

Reaffirming the unique and specific role of the Institute in the areas of research and training that can facilitate the systematic inclusion of women as partners in development programmes and projects,

Recognizing the important role that the Institute could play in the substantive preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1995,

Convinced that sustainable development cannot be achieved without the full participation of women,

1. Expresses its satisfaction with the report of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on its activities;

15/ A/48/301, annex.

2. Commends the Institute for its efforts to focus on problems that constitute barriers to improving the status of women, thus impeding overall development and progress;

3. Urges the Institute to continue to strengthen its activities in the areas of research, training and information aimed at mainstreaming gender in development strategies and giving women greater visibility by valuating their contribution to social and economic development as important means of empowering women and improving their status;

4. Requests the Institute to assist with the substantive preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, given its key role in the areas of research and training and its expertise in gender statistics;

5. Emphasizes the unique function of the Institute as the only entity within the United Nations system devoted exclusively to research and training for the integration of women in development, and stresses the importance of making its research findings available for policy purposes and for operational activities;

6. Expresses its appreciation for the continuing efforts of the Institute to strengthen its programmatic linkages with other United Nations organizations, regional commissions, governmental and non-governmental organizations, research institutes and other organizations and groups, thereby broadening the scope of its operations, making optimum use of its limited financial resources and attaining a greater outreach and impact of its work;

7. Expresses its appreciation also to those Governments and organizations which have contributed to or supported the activities of the Institute;

8. Invites States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women so that the Institute can fulfil its mandate and ensure the full participation and proper recognition of women in society;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session a report on the activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, including a detailed description of its administrative and institutional status, under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also Article 8 of the Charter, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

Recalling further the relevant paragraphs of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 16/ especially paragraphs 79, 315, 356 and 358,

Recalling the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other bodies that have continued to focus on this area since the adoption of Assembly resolution 2715 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, in which the question of the employment of women in the Professional category was first addressed,

Taking note of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat, 17/

Recalling the goal set in its resolutions 45/125 of 14 December 1990, 45/239 C of 21 December 1990, 46/100 of 16 December 1991 and 47/93 of 16 December 1992 of a 35 per cent overall participation rate of women in posts subject to geographical distribution by 1995,

Noting with concern that the current rate of increase in the appointment of women is insufficient to achieve the objective of a 35 per cent participation rate of women in posts subject to geographical distribution by 1995,

Recalling the goal set in its resolution 45/239 C of a 25 per cent participation rate of women in posts at the D-1 level and above by 1995,

Noting with concern that the participation rate of women in posts at the D-1 level and above remains unreasonably low, although some welcome improvements have been made,

Aware that a comprehensive policy aimed at preventing sexual harassment should be an integral part of personnel policy,

Commending the Secretary-General for his administrative instruction 18/ containing procedures for dealing with cases of sexual harassment,

Bearing in mind that a visible commitment by the Secretary-General is essential to the achievement of the targets set by the General Assembly,

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16/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

17/ A/48/513.

18/ ST/AI/379.

Welcoming the commitment of the Secretary-General, expressed in his statement to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, 19/ to bringing the balance in policy-level positions as close to fifty-fifty as possible, and his commitment, expressed in his message on the occasion of International Women's Day 1993, 20/ to see that the number of women in Professional posts in the Secretariat reflects the world population as a whole by the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations in 1995,

Welcoming also the development by the Secretary-General of a plan of action for 1993 and 1994 to improve the status of women in the Secretariat by 1995, 21/

1. Urges the Secretary-General to implement fully the plan of action to improve the status of women in the Secretariat by 1995, 21/ noting that his visible commitment is essential to the achievement of the targets set by the General Assembly;

2. Also urges the Secretary-General to examine further existing work practices within the United Nations system with a view to increasing flexibility so as to remove direct or indirect discrimination against staff members with family responsibilities, including consideration of such issues as job-sharing, flexible working hours, child-care arrangements, career break schemes and access to training;

3. Further urges the Secretary-General, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, to accord greater priority to the recruitment and promotion of women in posts subject to geographical distribution, particularly in senior policy-level and decision-making posts and within those parts of the United Nations system and its specialized agencies where representation of women is considerably below the average, in order to achieve the goals set in its resolutions 45/125, 45/239 C, 46/100 and 47/93 of an overall participation rate of 35 per cent by 1995 and 25 per cent in posts at the D-1 level and above by 1995;

4. Strongly urges the Secretary-General to make further use of the opportunity offered by the United Nations reorganization process to promote more women into senior-level positions;

5. Calls on the Secretary-General to strengthen, from within existing resources, the focal point for women within the Secretariat to ensure authority of enforcement and responsibility of accountability and to enable it more effectively to monitor and facilitate progress in the 1995 action programme;

6. Urges the Secretary-General to increase the number of women employed in the Secretariat from developing countries, particularly those which are

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19/ A/C.5/47/SR.21, para. 58.

20/ E/CN.6/1993/15, para. 14.

21/ See A/48/513, para. 18.

unrepresented or underrepresented, and from other countries that have a low representation of women, including countries in transition;

7. Strongly encourages Member States to support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to increase the percentage of women in Professional posts, especially at the D-1 level and above, by identifying and submitting more women candidates, encouraging women to apply for vacant posts and creating national rosters of women candidates to be shared with the Secretariat, specialized agencies and regional commissions;

8. Requests the Secretary-General further to develop comprehensive policy measures aimed at the prevention of sexual harassment in the Secretariat;

9. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that a progress report on the status of women in the Secretariat containing, inter alia, policy measures aimed at the prevention of sexual harassment in the Secretariat, is presented to the Commission on the Status of Women, in accordance with the relevant rules on the delivery timetable for documentation, at its thirty-eighth session, and to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, by which it decided to establish the United Nations Development Fund for Women as a separate and identifiable entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme,

Reaffirming the catalytic role of the Fund in increasing opportunities and options for women in developing countries to participate more effectively in the development of their countries, in line with national priorities,

Recognizing the important contribution the Fund continues to make in galvanizing efforts of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to formulate and support innovative activities that directly benefit and empower women,

Recognizing also the initiatives of the Fund to provide technical assistance to national machineries on women and to other relevant line ministries in gender-sensitive development planning, and to facilitate national preparatory activities for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1995,

Emphasizing the position of the Fund as a specialized resource base for development cooperation linking the needs and aspirations of women and resources, programmes and policies for their economic development,

Noting the focused and responsive interventions of the Fund within its regional priority framework and its overall strategic approach to women in development,

1. Takes note of the note of the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women; 22/

2. Commends the Fund for its support of catalytic and innovative projects that strengthen national capacity to improve the situation of women;

3. Encourages the Fund to continue to promote initiatives that incorporate the dimension of women in the agendas of the mainstream development efforts of Governments, United Nations organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector;

4. Also encourages the Fund to continue its support of initiatives regarding women in politics, especially within the democratization process in developing countries;

5. Welcomes the Fund's advocacy initiatives, including its contribution to and participation in the follow-up of Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 23/ and of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, 24/ in particular with respect to efforts to combat violence against women;

6. Welcomes also the appointment of an adviser from the United Nations Development Fund for Women to the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat;

7. Commends the Fund for its recent signing of a memorandum of understanding with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which should contribute to the development of meaningful and lasting solutions to the problem of refugee women and children;

8. Endorses the role of the Fund in promoting the strategic importance of the empowerment of women;

22/ A/48/279.

23/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

24/ Report of the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 14-25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I)), chap. III.

9. Commends the Fund's initiatives to assist developing countries in their preparations for the World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, including the preparation of national reports;

10. Stresses the importance of the Fund's role in the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development and the World Summit for Social Development, the results of which should constitute a major contribution to the Fourth World Conference on Women;

11. Notes with satisfaction the steady increase in contributions to the Fund and urges Governments and public and private donors to continue to extend their support to the Fund through voluntary contributions and pledges to its programmes;

12. Welcomes the establishment of new national committees for the Fund in Canada, Liechtenstein and Switzerland and urges other developed countries to encourage the establishment of national committees;

13. Stresses the importance of the work of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women in policy and programme directions related to the activities of the Fund;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women to be submitted in accordance with its resolution 39/125.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 44/77 of 8 December 1989, in which, inter alia, it endorsed and reaffirmed the importance of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 25/ for the period up to the year 2000 and set out measures for their immediate implementation and for the overall achievement of the interrelated goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/98 of 16 December 1991 and 47/95 of 16 December 1992,

Taking into consideration the resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council on issues relating to women since the adoption of its resolution 1987/18 of 26 May 1987,

Reaffirming its determination to encourage the full participation of women in economic, social, cultural, civil and political affairs and to promote development, cooperation and international peace,

Conscious of the important and constructive contribution to the improvement of the status of women made by the Commission on the Status of Women, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned,

Concerned that the resources available to the programme on the advancement of women of the Secretariat are insufficient to ensure adequate support to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and effective implementation of other aspects of the programme, especially the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1995,

Taking into account resolutions 36/8 of 20 March 1992 and 37/7 of 25 March 1993, adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, on the preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women,

Bearing in mind the important role non-governmental organizations play in all activities for the advancement of women and the fact that some of them,

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25/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

especially those from developing countries, do not enjoy consultative status with the Economic and Social Council,

Noting with satisfaction that the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women have entered a substantive stage, that the relevant United Nations bodies, the host country, China, and other countries all attach great importance to the preparation of the Conference and that the various preparatory activities are being conducted in an in-depth and comprehensive manner,

Considering that 1994 will be a year of crucial importance to the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women, that the Commission on the Status of Women will hold an inter-sessional working group to deliberate the content of the Platform for Action and that the five regional commissions will convene their respective regional preparatory meetings for the Conference,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 26/

2. Reaffirms paragraph 2 of section I of the recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/15 of 24 May 1990, which called for an improved pace in the implementation of the Strategies in the crucial last decade of the twentieth century, since the cost to societies of failing to implement the Strategies would be high in terms of slowed economic and social development, inadequate use of human resources and reduced progress for society as a whole;

3. Urges Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to implement the recommendations;

4. Calls again upon Member States to give priority to policies and programmes relating to the subtheme "Employment, health and education", in particular to literacy, for self-reliance of women and the mobilization of indigenous resources, as well as to issues relating to the role of women in economic and political decision-making, population, the environment, information and science and technology;

5. Reaffirms the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in matters related to the advancement of women, and calls upon it to continue promoting the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies to the Year 2000, based on the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the subtheme "Employment, health and education", and urges all relevant bodies of the United Nations system to cooperate effectively with the Commission in this task;

6. Requests the Commission, when considering the priority theme relating to development during its thirty-eighth and subsequent sessions, to ensure its early contribution to the preparatory work of forthcoming major international conferences such as the International Conference on Population and Development,

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26/ A/48/413.

to be held in 1994, the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1995, and the World Summit for Social Development, to be held in 1995, and to address the impact of technologies on women;

7. Also requests the Commission to give special attention to women in developing countries, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries, who suffer disproportionately from the effects of the global economic crisis and the heavy external debt burden, and to recommend further measures for the equalization of opportunity and for the integration of women's roles and perspective, as well as needs, concerns and aspirations into the entire development process when considering the priority theme of development;

8. Emphasizes, in the framework of the Forward-looking Strategies, the importance of the total integration of women of all ages in the development process, bearing in mind the specific and urgent needs of the developing countries, and calls upon Member States to establish specific targets at each level in order to increase the participation of women in professional, management and decision-making positions in their countries;

9. Emphasizes once again the need to give urgent attention to redressing socio-economic inequities at the national and international levels as a necessary step towards the full realization of the goals and objectives of the Forward-looking Strategies through meeting women's practical and strategic needs;

10. Strongly urges that particular attention be given by the competent United Nations organizations and Governments to the special needs of women with disabilities, to elderly women and also to women in vulnerable situations such as migrant and refugee women and children;

11. Takes note of the Secretary-General's report on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas 27/ and urges the international community and the competent United Nations bodies and organs to place more emphasis on the sharp increase in the incidence of poverty among rural women;

12. Welcomes the recommendations on women, environment and development in all programme areas, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, in particular chapter 24 of Agenda 21, entitled "Global action for women towards sustainable and equitable development"; 28/

13. Urges organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations to ensure active participation of women in the planning and implementation of programmes

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27/ A/48/187-E/1993/76.

28/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

for sustainable development, and requests Governments to consider nominating women as representatives to the Commission on Sustainable Development; 29/

14. Requests the Secretary-General, in formulating the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 1996-2001 and in integrating the Forward-looking Strategies into activities mandated by the General Assembly, to pay particular attention to specific sectoral themes that cut across the three objectives, equality, development and peace, and include, in particular, literacy, education, health, population, the impact of technology on the environment and its effect on women and the full participation of women in decision-making, and to continue to assist Governments in strengthening their national machineries for the advancement of women;

15. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue updating the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, 30/ bearing in mind its importance, placing particular emphasis on the adverse impact of the difficult economic situation affecting the majority of developing countries, particularly on the condition of women, giving special attention to worsening conditions for the incorporation of women into the labour force, as well as the impact of reduced expenditures for social services on women's opportunities for education, health and child care, and to submit a preliminary version of the updated World Survey on the Role of Women in Development to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, in 1994 and a final version in 1994;

16. Requests Governments, when presenting candidatures for vacancies in the Secretariat, in particular at the decision-making level, to give priority to women's candidatures, and requests the Secretary-General in reviewing those candidatures to give special consideration to female candidates from underrepresented and unrepresented developing countries;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to invite Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to report periodically to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, on activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Forward-looking Strategies;

18. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide for the existing weekly radio programmes on women in the regular budget of the United Nations, making adequate provisions for broadcasts in different languages, and to develop the focal point for issues relating to women in the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, which, in concert with the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development should provide a more effective public information programme relating to the advancement of women;

19. Further requests the Secretary-General to include in his report on the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies, to be submitted to the General

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29/ See resolution 47/191.

30/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.89.IV.2.

Assembly at its forty-ninth session, an assessment of recent developments that are relevant to the priority themes to be considered at the subsequent session of the Commission and to transmit to the Commission a summary of relevant views expressed by delegations during the debate in the Assembly;

20. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to examine the implications of the World Conference on Human Rights and the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference 31/ for its central role in matters related to women's rights within the United Nations system and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its 1994 session;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report to the Commission on the Status of Women, for consideration at its thirty-eighth session, on steps to be taken by the Division for the Advancement of Women, in cooperation with other United Nations bodies, specifically the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, to ensure that relevant human rights mechanisms of the United Nations, such as treaty-monitoring bodies, rapporteurs and working groups, regularly address violations of women's human rights, including gender-specific abuses;

22. Recognizes that the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women 32/ is essential to the attainment of full respect for women's rights and is an important contribution to efforts aimed at achieving the objectives of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the Year 2000;

23. Requests the Secretary-General to lend support to the convening of the regional preparatory meetings so as to lay a good foundation for the Fourth World Conference on Women;

24. Also requests the Secretary-General, from within existing resources, to give more support to the Division for the Advancement of Women, acting as secretariat of the Fourth World Conference on Women, by providing sufficient financial and human resources and giving wide publicity about the Conference and its preparatory activities;

25. Appeals to countries to compile their national reports in earnest and to forward them in time, both to their respective regional commissions and to the secretariat of the Conference;

26. Invites the Secretary-General to play a more active role in appealing to countries to contribute to the Trust Fund for the World Conference on Women, in order to finance additional activities of the preparatory process and the Conference itself, in particular the participation of least developed countries in the Conference and its preparatory meetings;

31/ Report of the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 14-25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I)), chap. III.

32/ See draft resolution I above.

27. Recommends the further development of methods of compilation and data collection in areas of concern identified by the Commission on the Status of Women and urges Member States to improve and broaden collection of gender-desegregated statistical information and make it available to the relevant bodies of the United Nations system with a view to preparing, in all official languages, as a background document for the Fourth World Conference on Women, an updated edition of The World's Women 1970-1990: Trends and Statistics; 33/

28. Endorses the recommendation contained in resolution 36/8 of 20 March 1992 of the Commission on the Status of Women, that regional preparatory conferences include in their agendas the issue of women in public life, as well as the request that the Secretary-General include information on the decision-making position of women in public life and in the fields of science and technology in the preparation of the priority theme on peace: "Women in international decision-making", for the Commission at its thirty-ninth session, in 1995;

29. Requests the Secretary-General to make available for the Fourth World Conference on Women reports and decisions of the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development and the World Summit for Social Development;

30. Decides, taking into account resolution 37/7 of 25 March 1993 of the Commission on the Status of Women, to adopt the modalities for the participation in and contribution to the Fourth World Conference on Women and its preparatory process by the non-governmental organizations, particularly those from the developing countries, set out in the annex to the present resolution;

31. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report to the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held in Beijing in 1995, on the extent to which gender concerns have been included in the activities of the relevant human rights mechanisms of the United Nations, such as treaty-monitoring bodies, rapporteurs and working groups;

32. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on measures taken to implement the present resolution.

ANNEX

Participation of non-governmental organizations in the Fourth World Conference on Women and its preparatory body

Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that express the wish to attend the Conference and the meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women, acting as its preparatory body, will be accredited for participation. Others wishing to be accredited may apply to

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33/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XVII.3.

the Conference secretariat for this purpose in accordance with the following requirements:

(a) The secretariat of the Fourth World Conference on Women will be responsible for the receipt and preliminary evaluation, in accordance with the provisions set out below, of requests from non-governmental organizations for accreditation to the Conference and the Commission on the Status of Women when it is acting as the preparatory body;

(b) All such applications must be accompanied by information on the competence of the organization and on its relevance to the work of the preparatory body, indicating the particular areas of the Conference preparations to which such competence and relevance pertain, and should include the following:

(i) Purposes of the organization;

(ii) Information on its programmes and activities in areas relevant to the Conference and on the country or countries in which those programmes and activities are carried out;

(iii) Confirmation of its activities at the national and/or the international level;

(iv) Copies of its annual reports with financial statements and a list of members of the governing body and their country of nationality;

(v) A description of its membership, indicating the total number of members of the governing body and their country of nationality;

(c) Non-governmental organizations seeking accreditation will be asked to confirm their interest in the goals and objectives of the Conference;

(d) In cases where the Conference secretariat believes, on the basis of the information provided in accordance with the present document, that an organization has established its competence and relevance to the work of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as preparatory body, it will recommend to the Commission that the organization be accredited. In cases where the Conference secretariat does not recommend the granting of accreditation, it will make such information available to members of the Commission at least one week prior to the start of each session;

(e) The Commission on the Status of Women will decide on all proposals for accreditation within twenty-four hours of the Conference secretariat's recommendations having been taken up by the Commission in plenary session. Should a decision not be taken within that period, interim accreditation will be accorded until such time as a decision is taken;

(f) A non-governmental organization that has been granted accreditation to attend one session of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as preparatory body may attend all future sessions and the Conference;

(g) In recognition of the intergovernmental nature of the Fourth World Conference on Women, non-governmental organizations have no negotiating role in the work of the Conference and its preparatory process;

(h) Relevant non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may be given the opportunity briefly to address the Commission on the Status of Women acting as preparatory body in plenary meeting and its subsidiary bodies. Other relevant non-governmental organizations may also ask to speak briefly at such meetings. If the number of requests is too large, the Commission will request that non-governmental organizations form themselves into constituencies, with each constituency speaking through one spokesperson. Any oral intervention by a non-governmental organization should, in accordance with normal United Nations practice, be made at the discretion of the Chairman and with the consent of the Commission;

(i) Relevant non-governmental organizations may, at their own expense, make written presentations in the official languages of the United Nations during the preparatory process, as they deem appropriate. Those written presentations will not be issued as official documents unless they are in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 34/14 of 9 November 1979, in which it endorsed the Declaration of Principles and the Programme of Action as adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, 34/ and its resolution 44/78 of 8 December 1989,

Recalling also the importance attached to the problems of rural women by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 35/

Recalling further its resolution 47/174 of 22 December 1992, in which it welcomed the adoption of the Geneva Declaration for Rural Women 36/ by the Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women, held at Geneva on 25 and 26 February 1992, and urged all States to work for the achievement of the goals endorsed in that Declaration,

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34/ See Report of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Rome, 12-20 July 1979 (WCARRD/REP); transmitted to members of the General Assembly by a note of the Secretary-General (A/34/485).

35/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

36/ A/47/308-E/1992/97, annex.

Welcoming the growing awareness of Governments of the need for strategies and programmes to improve the situation of women in rural areas,

Recognizing that the economic and financial crises in many developing countries have severely affected the socio-economic status of women, especially in rural areas, and noting with deep concern the continuing rise in the number of rural women living in poverty,

Recognizing the urgent need to take appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 37/

2. Invites Member States to attach greater importance to the improvement of the situation of rural women in their national development strategies, paying special attention to both their practical and strategic needs, by, inter alia:

(a) Integrating the concerns of rural women into national development policies and programmes, in particular by placing a higher priority on budgetary allocations related to the interests of rural women;

(b) Strengthening national machineries and establishing institutional linkages among governmental bodies in various sectors and non-governmental organizations concerned with rural development;

(c) Increasing the participation of rural women in the decision-making process;

(d) Improving accessibility of rural women to productive resources;

(e) Investing in the human resources of rural women, particularly through health and literacy programmes;

3. Requests the international community, competent United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations to promote the realization of programmes and projects aimed at the improvement of the situation of rural women;

4. Invites the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held in 1994, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held in 1995, in formulating respective strategies and actions, to give due consideration to the issue of improving the situation of rural women;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with Member States and competent United Nations organizations, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to submit it, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

37/ A/48/187-E/1993/76.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirms faith in human rights and fundamental freedoms, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women,

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, 38/ that gender-based violence and all forms of sexual harassment and exploitation are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and must be eliminated by legal measures and through national and international cooperation,

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families, as a consequence of poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic situations in their home countries, while acknowledging the primary duty of States to work for conditions that provide employment to their citizens,

Recognizing that it is the duty of sending countries to protect and promote the interests of their citizens who seek or receive employment in other countries, to provide them with appropriate training/education, and to apprise them of their rights and obligations in the countries of employment,

Aware of the moral obligation of receiving or host countries to ensure the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons within their boundaries, including migrant workers, in particular women migrant workers, who are doubly vulnerable because of their gender and their being foreigners,

Noting with concern the continuing reports of grave abuses and acts of violence committed against the persons of women migrant workers by some of their employers in some host countries,

Stressing that acts of violence directed against women impair or nullify the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced of the need to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and the need to protect them from gender-based violence,

1. Expresses grave concern at the plight of women migrant workers who become victims of physical, mental and sexual harassment and abuse;

38/ Report of the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 14-25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I)), chap. III, sect. I, para. 18.

2. Recognizes with appreciation the efforts exerted by some receiving countries to alleviate the negative situation of women migrant workers;

3. Welcomes the adoption by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1993 of the draft declaration on the elimination of violence against women; 39/

4. Reaffirms the provision in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action 38/ that the human rights of women should form an integral part of the United Nations human rights activities, including the promotion of all human rights instruments specifically relating to women;

5. Calls upon all countries, particularly the sending and receiving States, to cooperate in taking appropriate steps to ensure that the rights of women migrant workers are protected;

6. Also calls upon the countries concerned to take appropriate measures to ensure that law-enforcement officials and the judiciary assist in guaranteeing the full protection of the rights of women migrant workers;

7. Urges both sending and host countries to help ensure that women migrant workers are protected from unscrupulous recruitment practices, if needed, by the adoption of legal measures;

8. Encourages Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; 40/

9. Invites trade unions to support the realization of the rights of women migrant workers by assisting them in organizing themselves so as to enable them better to assert their rights;

10. Requests treaty-monitoring bodies and calls upon non-governmental organizations concerned with violence against women to include, where appropriate, the situation of women migrant workers in their deliberations and findings and to supply relevant information to United Nations bodies and Governments;

11. Calls upon non-governmental organizations concerned in cooperation with both the sending and the host countries to conduct seminars and training programmes on human rights instruments, particularly those pertaining to migrant workers;

12. Urges all States to adopt, with the support of relevant non-governmental organizations, appropriate measures to provide support services to women migrant workers who have become traumatized as a consequence of

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39/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 1 (E/1993/1), resolution 1993/10.

40/ Resolution 45/158, annex.

violations of their rights by, inter alia, unscrupulous employers and/or recruiters, and to provide resources for their physical and psychological rehabilitation;

13. Also urges that the subject of violence against women migrant workers be included in the agenda of the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in Beijing in 1995;

14. Calls upon competent bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to inform the Secretary-General of the extent of the problem and to recommend further measures to implement the purposes of the present resolution;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution, taking note of the relevant views of the Commission on the Status of Women in its discussion of the subject of violence against women at its thirty-eighth session, in March 1994.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

Merger of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/135 of 16 December 1976, in which it endorsed the establishment of an International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, and Economic and Social Council resolution 1998 (LX) of 12 May 1976 concerning the guidelines regarding the activities of the Institute,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council decision 1993/235 of 27 July 1993, in which the Council agreed to the recommendation of the Secretary-General to merge the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, subject to a proper analysis of the legal, financial and administrative implications of the merger, and subject to consideration by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 1993/235, 41/

Emphasizing that the ultimate goal of restructuring should be to strengthen the programmes for the advancement of women and to enhance the efficiency of the work of those organizations, in function, structure and cost-effectiveness,

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41/ A/48/591.

Recognizing the importance of adequate preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held in 1995, under the guidance of the Conference secretariat and the role therein of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

1. Affirms that both the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women should retain their comparative advantages in activities relating to the advancement of women;

2. Urges that the interaction between the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women be reviewed and rationalized within the context of ongoing efforts to revitalize the Economic and Social Council in pursuance of a stronger, more unified programme for the advancement of women;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in accordance with rule 157 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1994 a report on the proposed merger of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women and to include in it:

(a) A clear analysis of the financial benefits resulting from the merger;

(b) An estimate of the one-time non-recurrent costs of the merger, including for transitional measures, as well as an estimate of the recurrent costs of the merger;

(c) Details of the current staffing structure of the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, together with details of the proposed structure, including reporting arrangements;

(d) Staffing implications;

(e) A report on consultations with the host Government of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General, in this context, to include in his report consideration of the potential duplication of training activities of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Development Fund for Women;

5. Requests that the Economic and Social Council submit its final recommendations to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session for its consideration and action before 31 December 1994.